

Message Text

SECRET

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16

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8265

S E C R E T TEHRAN 7495

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUB: VISIT OF SECRETARY TO IRAN

REF: (A) TEHRAN 7246, (B) TEHRAN 7247, (C) STATE 180686, (D) TEHRAN

7463

1. MAY I PLEASE BESPEAK YOUR ASSISTANCE IN CLARIFYING A CERTAIN CONFUSION WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE CROPPED UP IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR UPCOMING VISIT TO IRAN. WE ARE MOST ANXIOUS TO CARRY OUT YOUR WISHES AS BEST WE CAN, BUT WE SEEM TO BE GETTING CONFLICTING INDICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND FROM AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI.

2. WHEN I FIRST DISCUSSED YOUR VISIT WITH MINISTER OF COURT ALAM, I MADE IT CLEAR THAT YOU WANTED TO ABIDE BY THE WISHES OF THE IMPERIAL COURT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN AS TO THE ARRANGEMENTS. THIS WAS REFLECTED IN THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED REFTEL (A). SUBSEQUENTLY, WE RECEIVED REFTEL (C). THIS IN TURN WAS OVERTAKEN BY REFTEL (D). WHEN I SAW THE SHAH SATURDAY AFTERNOON, HE NOTED THAT HE HAD HAD A TELEGRAM FROM AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI THAT MORNING STATING THAT YOU WISHED TO BE AT NOWSHAHR DURING YOUR STAY IN IRAN, OR PUT IN THE SHAH'S EXACT WORDS, "I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SECRETARY WISHES TO BE UP NORTH DURING HIS TWO DAYS HERE." WE DISCUSSED THE PROS AND CONS. IT ENDED BY THE SHAH VERY GRACIOUSLY SAYING, "IF SECRETARY KISSINGER WISHES TO BE AT NOWSHAHR, OF COURSE WE WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE."

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3. IN CONVEYING TO ME YOUR WISHES, PLEASE UNDERSTAND
THAT I WOULD NOT BE DOING MY JOB IF I DID NOT ASK YOU
TO KEEP IN MIND CERTAIN FACTORS WHICH ARE RELEVANT:

(1) NOWSHahr, RAMSAR, AND THE TOWNS BETWEEN ARE RESORT
TOWNS AND THIS IS THE HEIGHT OF THE SUMMER SEASON FOR IRANIANS.

(2) COMMUNICATIONS WERE DIFFICULT ENOUGH FROM ISFAHAN
THE LAST TIME YOU WERE HERE, THEY WILL BE CONSIDERABLY MORE
DIFFICULT AT THE CASPIAN. (YOUR PLANE MUST REMAIN IN TEHRAN,
SO IT WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR COMMO SERVICE AS VICE-PRESIDENT
ROCKEFELLER'S WAS AT KISH ISLAND LAST MARCH.)

(3) THE WEATHER AT THE CASPIAN IS HUMID AND CAN BE HOT AT
THIS TIME OF YEAR.

(4) AT PRESENT WE HAVE NO READING ON WHERE YOUR SECRETARIAT
AT NOWSHahr WOULD BE SET UP, BUT PERHAPS THERE IS ROOM IN THE
RAMBLER-TYPE BEACH HOUSE WHERE YOU WOULD BE STAYING, A GOOD
WALK FROM THE SHAH'S RELATIVELY MODEST ACCOMMODATIONS AT RAMSAR THE
SHAH'S PALACE HAS ONLY ONE BEDROOM, SO YOU WOULD PROBABLY BE
AT THE GRAND HOTEL NEXT DOOR. THESE TOWNS ARE ONE HOUR'S DRIVE
APART.

4. REGRET HAVING TO TROUBLE YOU WITH THESE DETAILS. NONE
OF THEM ARE INSURMOUNTABLE AND I AM QUITE CERTAIN THAT WHATEVER
YOU DECIDE WILL BE ENTIRELY ACCEPTABLE TO THE SHAH AND THE GOI,
WHO AS USUAL WANT TO BE AS ACCOMMODATING AS POSSIBLE. I AM SURE
YOU KNOW THAT ON OUR PART WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAKE
YOUR VISIT COMFORTABLE AND SUCCESSFUL. WARM REGARDS.

HELMS

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O.

SECRET

NNN

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